

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). Powers have been delegated to the States/Union Territories for enforcement of the Cement Quality Control Order, 1962. Action against adulteration of cement is taken by local administration authorities. Figures of arrests are not maintained centrally.

(d) There is no proposal at present to change the containers of cement.

(e) Does not arise.

Electronic Digital Meter

4954. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electronic digital meter for motor car is covered under the Standard of Weights and Measures Act, 1976;

(b) whether the electronic meter has been got approved as per the law;

(c) if not, the circumstances under which the Union Government have allowed the sale of electronic digital meter in Goa, Maharashtra, Mizoram and also to Maruti Udyog Ltd., and

(d) The action proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) The specification of the electronic digital meter for taxis has been prescribed under the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976. Further, according to the Act, the model of the electronic digital meter for taxis sold in the course of inter-State trade or commerce, is to be approved by the Union Government.

(b) One application for the model approval of the electronic digital meter is under examination.

(c) and (d). As licensing to manufacture and sell measuring instruments is within the competence of the States and UTs., the information is being collected from the States concerned and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Robots

4955. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Scientists are converting non-thinking 'robots' into thinking ones, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the names of the countries associated with the Indian Scientists in this regard; and

(c) the areas where these robots are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir. Presently no such systematic activity is going on in converting non-thinking robots into thinking ones. However, R&D Work is being carried out in our educational and R&D institutions as well as some of our industries in developing robots (manipulators) for in-house use. A coordinated programme is being worked out in order to build competence in this important area of technology development.

(b) At present there are no international collaborations for any research work in this area.

(c) Robots are planned to be introduced on a selective basis for operations in industrial environments of hazardous nature.